

From: Martina Naich <Martina@picawa.org>
To: Language Access Work Group Team <workgroupssb5304@dshs.wa.gov>
Date: October 26, 2023, 12:00PM
Subject: The public is invited to comment on medical interpreter testing and certification in Washington State

Greetings,

I hope this email will find you well today.

I am writing to put my two cents on medical interpreter testing and certification in Washington State.

1. Many of the interpretation class/assessments are being administered by someone who does not speak the language – Chuukese Language.
which in many case it causes;
 - a. Confusion for the person who is trying to obtain certification
 - b. Inaccurate translated terms
 - c. Ineffective learning
2. Need available and accessible access to;
 - a. Instructors in particular language – Chuukese Language
 - b. Learning guide in particular language before accessing tests – Chuukese Language
 - c. Testing/Certification sites or physical locations

The Chuukese language here in Washington State is growing by minute and many of the Chuukese language speakers in Washington do not have access to interpretation services due to limited supply of interpreters. If interests interpreter have easier access to get certified to interpreter it would bring down the supply demand of the language needed.

Best Regards,
Martina